

Minutes for the ABAC meeting of April 15, 2015

Approved May 20, 2015

Board members present were Christopher Tonkin, Scott Smith, Ron Sender, Phil Goff, Stephan Miller and Jack Johnson. Doug Greenfield was absent. Also in attendance were Joey Glushko, Ted Packard, Stephen Quinn, Anke Schafer, Officer Robert Smith, Elizabeth Shea and Rod Holland.

*The meeting was called to order at 7:30pm

*The minutes for the March meeting were accepted after some corrections were made.

COBWEB officer introduction. Officer Smith brought up the topic of whether bicyclists should dismount when crossing Lake St. on the Bikeway. We had a vigorous discussion about this topic and decided that bicyclists should not be required to dismount before crossing but they will then be considered a vehicle. We briefly reviewed the issue of the ramp onto the Bikeway from the Gold's Gym parking lot. Joey then asked if we could expect a police escort for the Tour this year. The Police Department will let us know if they can accompany us on the Tour after we submit a cue sheet for their approval.

Memorial for Bobby Mac. Anke, who represents Quad Cycles and the Bobby Mac Memorial Committee, told us that they would like ABAC to approve a memorial for Bobby Mac to be located next to the Bikeway. The Memorial has already been designed and approved by the Memorial Committee and the Board of Selectmen (BoS). The Memorial Committee has chosen a location near Ryder St. beside the Bikeway. Our only requirement was that the stone be placed far enough off the Bikeway for safety. Joey suggested that they mark a site plan to show exactly where the memorial will be located before ABAC gives final support.

TAC report. Scott told us that TAC has approved the Lane Marking Guidelines and someone from either TAC or ABAC should present them to the BoS for approval. We targeted a date of early June for this task.

Bikeway Cleanup. Stephan gave a brief summary of the publicity campaign for the Cleanup and told us that he expects a good crowd. Phil asked if we have ever considered a cleanup of the Alewife Greenway. The Greenway has a lot of trash so we thought a cleanup would be a good idea but ABAC lacks the manpower to organize it. Phil suggested that East Arlington Livable Streets (EALS) might wish to sponsor this cleanup. We then discussed possible reasons for there being so much trash on certain portions of that path.

John Wald Memorial. This memorial was set up by MassBike some time ago and is on Bikeway near the Alewife Terminus. The memorial was first maintained by MassBike and then the family of John Wald took over this responsibility. The family can no longer maintain the memorial so Joey asked if EALS could take it on. Jack then told us something about John Wald and the history of the memorial. Joey added that she recently put this item on the MassDOT agenda. Christopher suggested that we should think of the space as a "Welcome to Arlington Park" which, he felt, is an argument for the Town to take over the maintenance.

Bikeway User Counts. Joey has enough volunteers for Tue May 12 and asked for more volunteers for Saturday, May 9. We discussed the utility of counting at the Alewife/Mass Ave. intersection and decided not to do it this time around.

BIKE/Arlington Tour. Jack sent out the route for the Tour last week and gave us a summary. The route begins at Hurd Field and ends at the Schwamb Mill. The highlight of the ride will be a stop at the goat shed near LexFarm complete with a lecture from Karen Steiner. Jack volunteered to publicize this event.

Other Topics:

Bobby Mac memorial ride. Jack gave us a summary of the lunch held in memory of Bobby.

Tri-Community meeting. This meeting will be held on June 6 probably in Bedford. Joey asked for items to be put on the agenda. Items should be submitted before the beginning of May. Some topics that were suggested were emergency signage and snow removal. Joey will report on the progress in getting trash receptacles placed along the Bikeway in Arlington.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm

*Notes that a vote of the board was taken.

Minutes submitted by Stephan Miller